1	2	3	4	5
18.	Uttar Pradesh (Central)	881.03	994.05	113.02
19.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	938.50	1038.74	100.24
20.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	898.62	981.81	89.19

@ The prices for North and South Bihar Zones are subject to final orders of the Court in respect of purchase Tax etc. In case any amount is to be realised from the factories in the aforesaid zones of Bihar, it would have to be refunded by the concerned factories to the Sugar Price Equalisation Fund.

Cutting of Trees

2480. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY :
SHRI R.L.P. VERMA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the environment has been adversely affected in tribal areas of South Bihar due to illegal deforestation;

(b) if so, the percentage of decrease in the forest cover in the State during the last two years; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to stop deforestation and the details of the talks held with the State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) State of Forest Report 1995, has reported a decrease of 26 sq. km. (0.098%) in the forest cover in the 1995 assessment as compared with that in 1993 assessment in the State of Bihar. The deforestation is likely to adversely affect the environment in such tracts.

(c) The Government has taken following steps to check deforestation:

- Forest Conservation Act, 1980 has been enacted to prevent diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes without approval of the Central Government.
- Indian Forest Act, 1927 and Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 are being enforced to check forest and wildlife offences.
- Special programmes, including Project Tiger, Project Elephant are being implemented for conservation of rare and threatened species and habitats of biological significance.
- The afforestation/reforestation and eco-development programmes are being implemented for regeneration of degraded forests including buffer areas of National Parks, Sanctuaries and Project Tiger Reserves.
- Wood substitution and fuel saving devices are promoted to substitute the use of wood, reduce consumption and prevent wastage.
- The afforestation and wastelands development programmes are also being implemented in non-forest areas to reduce pressure on the forest and wildlife habitats.
- Joint Forest Management techniques and institutions are being developed for involvement of village communities and voluntary agencies in protection and regeneration of degraded forests on usufruct sharing basis.
- The Union Government has advised State Government to make an indepth analysis of the factors contributing depletion of forest cover and make all out efforts to step up afforestation programmes.

Quota of Foodgrains for Tribal Areas

2481. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan has not been deliberately lifting the quota of foodgrains fixed for the State;

(b) whether the poor tribals in the tribal areas of Rajasthan are being supplied only 21/2 kg. foodgrains per unit instead of their quota of 10 kg. per unit;

(c) whether the Union Government have conducted any inquiry in such irregularities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir. The Rajasthan Government has been lifting about 90% of the allocation for July 96 onwards.

(b) to (e) Public Distribution System is implemented under the joint responsibility of Central and State Governments/UT Administrations. Central Government makes bulk allocations of commodities for PDS to States/ UTs. Operational aspects of the PDS such as lifting of quota of foodgrains, sub-allocations to the areas, fixing quota per unit, etc. are within the jurisdiction of the State Government/UT Administrations. State Governments have been directed to set up monitoring

system at various levels for reviewing the implementation of the Public Distribution System.

Unidentified Bodies

2482. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to news-item captioned "Unclaimed bodies" appearing in the 'Indian Express', dated February 13, 1996;

(b) if so, the number of unidentified bodies recovered by the Delhi Police during 1995, 1996 and till date;

(c) the number out of them cremated at the expenses of the Government along with the reacons thereof;

(d) whether the efforts were made to inform the relatives of the deceased through wide publicity;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken to ensure the identity before their cremation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The Government have been the news-item in question which appeared in the "Indian Express" in its issue of February 13, 1997.

(b) to (e) The information is as under :-

Year	Number of unidentified bodies recovered
1995	1591
1996	1564
1997 (upto 28.2.97)	246

Despite best efforts made by the police, the relatives of the deceased could not be traced. As such all these unidentified bodies were cremated by the police at Government expense except the unidentified bodies of Muslims which were handed over to the Wakf Board for burial.

(f) The following steps were/are taken for the identification of the unidentified dead bodies before cremation/burial :

(1) Such bodies are preserved for 72 hours in the mortuary for identification;

(2) Local enquiries are made;

(3) Request is made to the Public through newspapers/Doordarshan to help the police in the identification of such bodies;

(4) the finger prints are preserved and got compared from the Finger Print Bureau;

(5) Photographs of such bodies are got published in the Gazette and also pasted at the public places;

(6) Missing Person Squad of Crime Branch is informed;

(7) Wireless Message is flashed to all Senior Superintendents of Police in India and all Station House Officers in Delhi for the identification of such bodies; and

(8) Hue and Cry Notice is circulated.

[English]

Allotment of Forest Land

2483. SHRI K.S. RAYUDU :
DR. M. JAGANNATH :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any request has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh to allot forest land to the occupants in lieu of waste land proposed to be surrendered; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Government of Andhra Pradesh have submitted a proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for dereservation of 33 ha. of forest land for assignment of pattas to tribals in Polavaram Range West Godawari district. The proposal has been received in the Ministry on 19.2.97 and is being processed.

[Translation]

Forest Conservation Act, 1980

2484. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether many villages in the country are located in jungles and the Department of Forests interferes and puts hurdles in the construction of roads to these villages;

(b) if so, the details of Government policy in this regard;

(c) whether the Government are aware that most of the villages of Sonebhadra district in U.P. even today are located in jungles and there by still deprived of roads; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Diversion of forest land for construction of roads attracts provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for which prior approval of Central Government is required. For this purpose the State Governments have to submit proposals on a prescribed proforma to